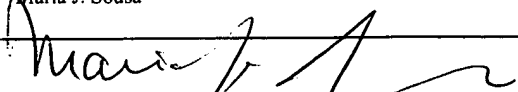


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.			
Typed or Printed Name	Maria J. Sousa		
Signature		Date	4/14/2006

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111 Address to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Attorney Docket	GUID-012CON
	Confirmation No.	5237
	First Named Inventor	Hu
	Application Number	09/900,503
	Filing Date	07/06/2001
	Group Art Unit	3625
	Examiner Name	Smith, Jeffrey A.
	Title	Surgical Retractor Platform Blade Apparatus

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated December 14, 2005 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before March 14, 2006, and which response period has been extended to April 14, 2006 by the Petition for a One Month Extension of Time filed concurrently herewith. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

04/18/2006 MBIZUNES 00000073 09900503

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